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FRED UPTON

6TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCESUBCOMMITTEES:ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY
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AND THE INTERNET**Congress of the United States**
House of Representatives

October 29, 2008

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Ms. Mary Canavan
Congressional Liaison Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region V
Mail Code: R-19J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3511

Dear Mary,

This letter is in reference to Mr. Donald Ulsh representing the Kalamazoo County Council of Governments of 7110 W. Q Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Mr. Ulsh contacted my office on May 6, 2008 regarding the Georgia Pacific Paper Mill Superfund site in the City of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo Township, Michigan.

It is my desire to be responsive to all inquiries from people of the Sixth District of Michigan. I would greatly appreciate your considerations, findings and views concerning the enclosed. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

For your convenient reference, I have enclosed a copy of Mr. Ulsh's correspondence. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Fred Upton
Member of Congress

FSU:ES



Kalamazoo County Council of Governments

May 6, 2008

The Honorable Fred Upton
157 South Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 180
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Dear Mr. Upton,

As members of your constituency we wish to thank you for your years of effort in improving the economic strength of southwest Michigan. Despite your efforts and the efforts of many others Michigan is in a severe downturn if not a recession.

The Kalamazoo County Council of Governments is interested in improving the strength of southwest Michigan and naturally our focus is on Kalamazoo County. We regularly receive and discuss information regarding local economic development and as a result have several questions and concerns we would like to share with you.

Our first question is what can be done, in any way, to improve economics prospects in Kalamazoo County?

We think one answer might be to look at the old Georgia Pacific Paper Mill property, sited mostly in Kalamazoo Township. There are over 100 acres that have lain idle since 2002 because it is part of a Super Fund site and because this property is unavailable it is unproductive.

We have been made aware that there are buyers interested in development on this property but because of the Federal involvement nothing can be done.

We wonder where the Federal government is in the process of making this land available for industrial development and how long it will take for this process to be completed? We also wonder whether part of the site which is supposedly not polluted could be separated from the part that is polluted so that development might be possible sooner rather than later?

Finally, would there be a reasonable way to unlock the value of this property for the benefit of Kalamazoo County and the State of Michigan?

We look forward to, and thank you, for your timely response.

The Kalamazoo County of Governments

By its President Mr. Donald Ulsh
Schoolcraft Township Supervisor

649-1276